

**DATE:** January 30, 2014

**SUBJECT:** Presentation of the Tennessee Tech University Campus Master Plan Update Refinement

**ACTION RECOMMENDED:** Approval

The 2013 Tennessee Tech University Master Plan Update Refinement will be presented by Gary Askew of Bauer Askew Architecture. THEC encourages institutions to produce a master plan approximately every five years that addresses near, mid and long-term needs of the campus with respect to building and land use, open space, vehicular circulation and parking, and land acquisition opportunities. The 2013 Refinement is intended to serve as a supplement to the master plan approved in 2010 in order to incorporate the vision of TTU president Dr. Philip Oldham, who was inaugurated in 2012.

The 2013 Refinement augments and enhances many of the concepts proposed in the 2010 Master Plan with three notable exceptions: the divergence from a long-term, four-phase approach in creating a multi-building science complex to the near-term construction of an integrated Science Building; the incorporation of a Student Intramural Building in the near-term vision; and an acceleration of the greening of the campus.

First, the integrated Science Building will dedicate approximately 150,000 gross square feet to multiple science disciplines, including chemistry, biology and other science programs. The new building will be the keynote building of a new east-west academic mall. Future academic buildings will be developed to the north and south of the new facility. Second, as detailed in the 2010 Master Plan, the current student recreation building will be converted into an athletic facility. The 2013 Refinement therefore plans to construct a new Student Intramural Building and requisite intramural fields south of campus, pending property acquisition.

A final major initiative of the 2013 Refinement is the greening of the campus. With the construction of the facilities above resulting in displaced parking, major parking lots will be established on the perimeter of the campus, diverting traffic to the exterior of campus. Additionally, trees will line major thoroughfares and existing parking lots will be enhanced with tree islands.

The Tennessee Tech University Campus Master Plan Update Refinement has been thoroughly reviewed and THEC staff recommends it for approval.